

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 868

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of William Harold "Snag" Hayes.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of William Harold "Snag" Hayes; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hayes was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked hard to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, he served with acumen and alacrity for forty-four years at Alcoa's Tennessee Operations, earning the respect of his employer and peers alike for the exemplary quality of his work and rising to lead them as Vice President of Local 309 of United Steelworkers of America; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, he was an invaluable asset to his community as a public servant of the utmost ability and merit, for twenty-two years serving on the Blount County Commission, then serving on the Blount County Election Commission from 1987 onward and as its Chairman from 1995 until his passing; and

WHEREAS, Snag Hayes was unique in that he generously contributed his talents and time for nearly forty years in public service, steadfastly working on behalf of his friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, a humble man and a beacon of integrity, he helped countless residents of Blount County and worked to ensure good government for his fellow citizens, and he leaves behind a void that cannot be filled; and

WHEREAS, he was a committed and honorable activist in the Democratic Party, working diligently on the Party's behalf and holding various positions of leadership, eventually attending the inauguration of President William Jefferson Clinton and Vice President Al Gore and always pointing to the week's stay in our Nation's Capital as one of his fondest memories; and

WHEREAS, though he believed deeply in the ideals of the Party, he never failed to do his best to help anyone in need, regardless of political affiliation; and

WHEREAS, a true patriot, Mr. Hayes served faithfully as a United States Marine during World War II and was wounded during the pivotal battle on Okinawa; this courageous American thus earned a position of honor among those gallant men and women who defended our nation and our freedom and deservedly have been called our "Greatest Generation"; and

WHEREAS, an active and devout Christian, Mr. Hayes was a member of the Beech Grove Baptist Church, which he served faithfully as a volunteer in various ministries and as Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hayes was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he was married to Elizabeth McClurg Hayes, who preceded him in death, and was the proud father of Libby Hayes Breeding, Steve Hayes, and another faithful public servant, Johnny Hayes, former TVA Director and Commissioner of Economic and Community Development; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hayes leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of William Harold "Snag" Hayes, longtime Blount County Commissioner and Blount County Election Commission Chairman, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Hayes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.